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# THE BASICS™: BOOKS FOR LITTLE ONES

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**Science shows that 80% of brain growth happens by age three!** Young brains develop like little muscles. They get bigger and stronger the more you interact with your infant or toddler. The Basics are five fun, simple, and powerful ways to help all our children aged 0-3 grow to be happy and smart.

It's never too early to start reading with your child! Even infants will enjoy touching and looking at the pictures in books. Try the books below or ask a librarian for recommendations. For more information on the Basics, as well as tips for reading with little ones, visit [www.thebasics.org](http://www.thebasics.org).



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## Booklist for Basic 1: Maximize Love, Manage Stress

*Besos for Baby* by Jen Arena

*Guess How Much I Love You* by Sam McBratney

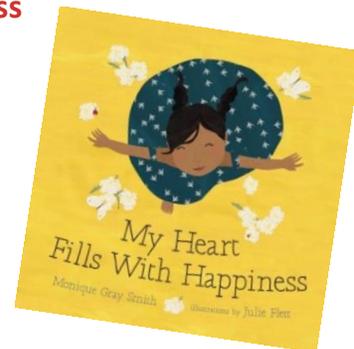
*Littles and How They Grow* by Kelly DiPucchio

*My Heart Fills with Happiness* by Monique Gray Smith

*Peekaboo Morning* by Rachel Isadora

*Show Me Happy* by Kathryn Madeline Allen

*The Shape of My Heart* by Mark Sperring



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## Booklist for Basic 2: Talk, Sing and Point

*Baa, Baa, Black Sheep* by Jane Cabrera

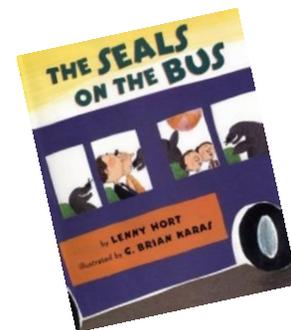
*I Ain't Gonna Paint No More!* by Karen Beaumont

*Jazz Baby* by Carole Boston Weatherford

*Little Elephants* by Susie Jaramillo

*The Seals on the Bus* by Lenny Hort

*Where Is Baby's Belly Button?* by Karen Katz



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## Booklist for Basic 3: Count, Group, and Compare

*Blocks* by Irene Dickson

*Chicka Chicka, 1, 2, 3* by Bill Martin Jr.

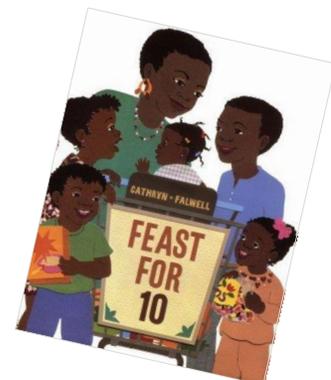
*City Shapes* by Diana Murray

*Feast for 10* by Cathryn Falwell

*Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns* by Hena Khan

*Mouse Paint* by Ellen Stoll Walsh

*Red is a Dragon: A Book of Colors* by Roseanne Thong

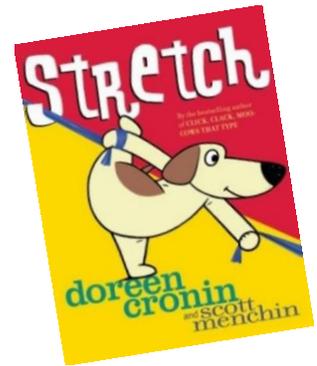




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## Booklist for Basic 4: Explore Through Movement and Play

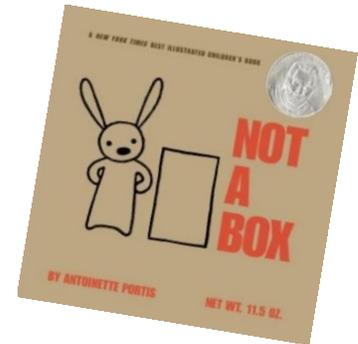
*Barnyard Dance* by Sandra Boynton  
*Can You Make A Scary Face?* by Jan Thomas  
*From Head to Toe* by Eric Carle  
*Stretch* by Doreen Cronin  
*Tap the Magic Tree* by Christie Matheson  
*Where Is the Green Sheep?* by Mem Fox  
*You Are A Lion!* by Taeun Yoo



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## Booklist for Basic 5: Read and Discuss Stories

*Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin  
*Llama Llama, Red Pajama* by Anna Dewdney  
*Lola at the Library* by Anna McQuinn  
*Maggie and Michael Get Dressed* by Denise Fleming  
*Not A Box* by Antoinette Portis  
*The Feelings Book* by Todd Parr  
*We Are Family* by Patricia Hegarty  
*Whose Knees Are These?* by Jabari Asim



Book images source: Amazon.com



Thank you to Boston Public Library (BPL) for support in creating these booklists.  
Click [here](#) to view all five lists on BPL's website.